

Future Applications of Laser Ranging in Space Missions: An Overview

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Many future space missions will benefit from the technology and the experience that has been developed around laser ranging in the last decades.

In this communication we first describe possible advancements in laser ranging itself and then highlight some of the research activities around laser ranging 'derivatives' that are carried out in our labs.

We then summarize (as exhaustive as possible) proposed space mission relying on laser ranging technology, in particular those recently submitted to the ESA Cosmic Vision Programme.